

# 7. NATURALIZATIONS

*This section presents information on the number and characteristics of persons who naturalize in the United States.*

**N**aturalization refers to the conferring of U.S. citizenship, by any means, upon a person after birth. (See Glossary.) There are five ways of becoming a naturalized U.S. citizen: naturalization in a court ceremony; naturalization through an administrative hearing; derivation through the naturalization of parents; acquisition at birth abroad to citizen parents; and legislation conferring citizenship upon certain groups of persons (see Limitations of Data). As part of the naturalization process, applicants pledge an oath of allegiance to the United States, thereby renouncing allegiance to their former countries of nationality, if any.

## U.S. Naturalization Program

To be naturalized, an applicant generally must fulfill certain requirements set forth in the Immigration and Nationality Act concerning age, lawful admission, and residence in the United States. These general naturalization provisions specify that an alien must: be at least 18 years of age; have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence; and have resided in the country continuously for at least 5 years. Additional requirements include the ability to speak, read, and write the English language; knowledge of the U.S. government and U.S. history; and good moral character. In fiscal year 2003, immigrants naturalizing under the general provisions accounted for 91 percent of those for whom the nationality law provision was reported. (Provision of the law was not reported for 2 percent of naturalizations.)

The special provisions of naturalization law exempt certain applicants from one or more of the requirements of the general provisions. Spouses and children of U.S. citizens and military classes constitute the main categories of special naturalization. The majority of people naturalizing as spouses of U.S. citizens may do so in 3 years rather than the 5 years prescribed under the general provisions. Of all new citizens in 2003 with naturalization law provision reported, 9 percent naturalized under the special provisions. Under the Child Citizenship Act of 2000,

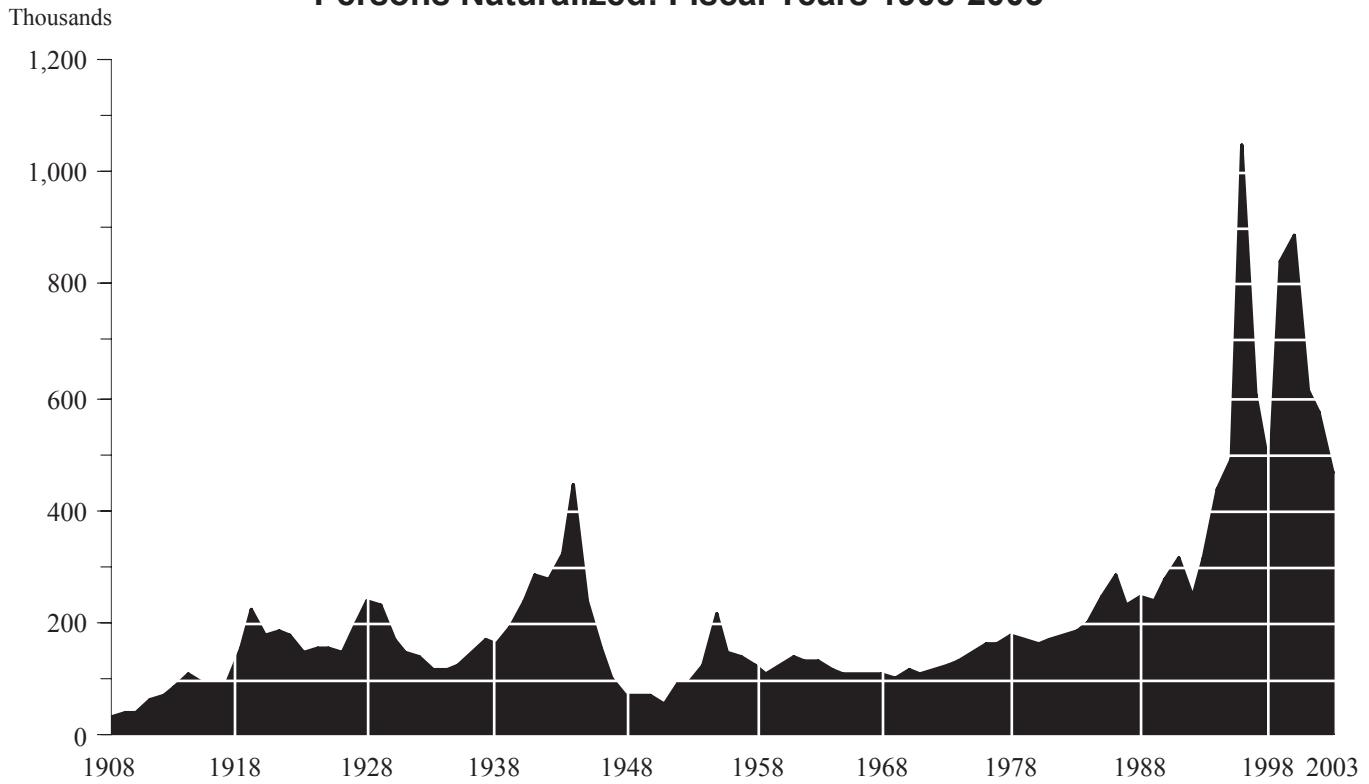
foreign-born children under 18 years of age, including adopted children, acquire U.S. citizenship automatically if they meet certain requirements. Among the requirements, the children must be lawful permanent residents and have at least one U.S. citizen parent. Acquisition of citizenship means citizenship acquired by law without the need to apply for citizenship. Previously, adopted children were required to apply for citizenship while children who immigrated with their parents derived U.S. citizenship through the naturalization of their parents. In addition, under certain conditions, children of a U.S. citizen who resides abroad may be naturalized. Under certain other conditions, applicants who served honorably during war time and other conflicts may naturalize without prior admission to permanent resident status. Also, they need not have resided in the United States for a particular length of time. Aliens with lawful permanent resident status who have served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States also are entitled to certain exemptions from the general naturalization requirements.

Every applicant for naturalization age 18 and over must file an application, Form N-400, Application for Naturalization. All persons filing these applications who meet the preliminary documentary requirements must be interviewed by officers from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to determine their eligibility to naturalize. During the interview the officer verifies the applicant's knowledge and understanding of the English language, as well as of the history and government of the United States. Those applicants found qualified are scheduled for an oath ceremony before a judge or USCIS district director.

## Data Overview

The number of persons naturalizing each year depends partly on trends in legal immigration in preceding years. Because of the 5-year residency requirement for most applicants, naturalizations typically lag behind legal immigration by at least 6 or 7 years.

**Chart J**  
**Persons Naturalized: Fiscal Years 1908-2003**



Source: 1961-2003, Table 31; 1908-60, previous Yearbooks.

USCIS naturalized 463,204 persons in fiscal year 2003. This figure was 19 percent less than the number of naturalizations in 2002 (573,708). Application receipts for naturalization were lower in 2003 than 2002, which is consistent with, but not exclusively attributed to, the decline in legal immigration during the late 1990s. The number of naturalization applications in the processing backlog was about 625,000 at the end of both fiscal years 2002 and 2003. The distribution of this backlog was uneven among USCIS offices nationwide. The impact of the backlog on the demographic composition of new citizens cannot be determined with certainty so caution should be exercised in drawing conclusions from the data.

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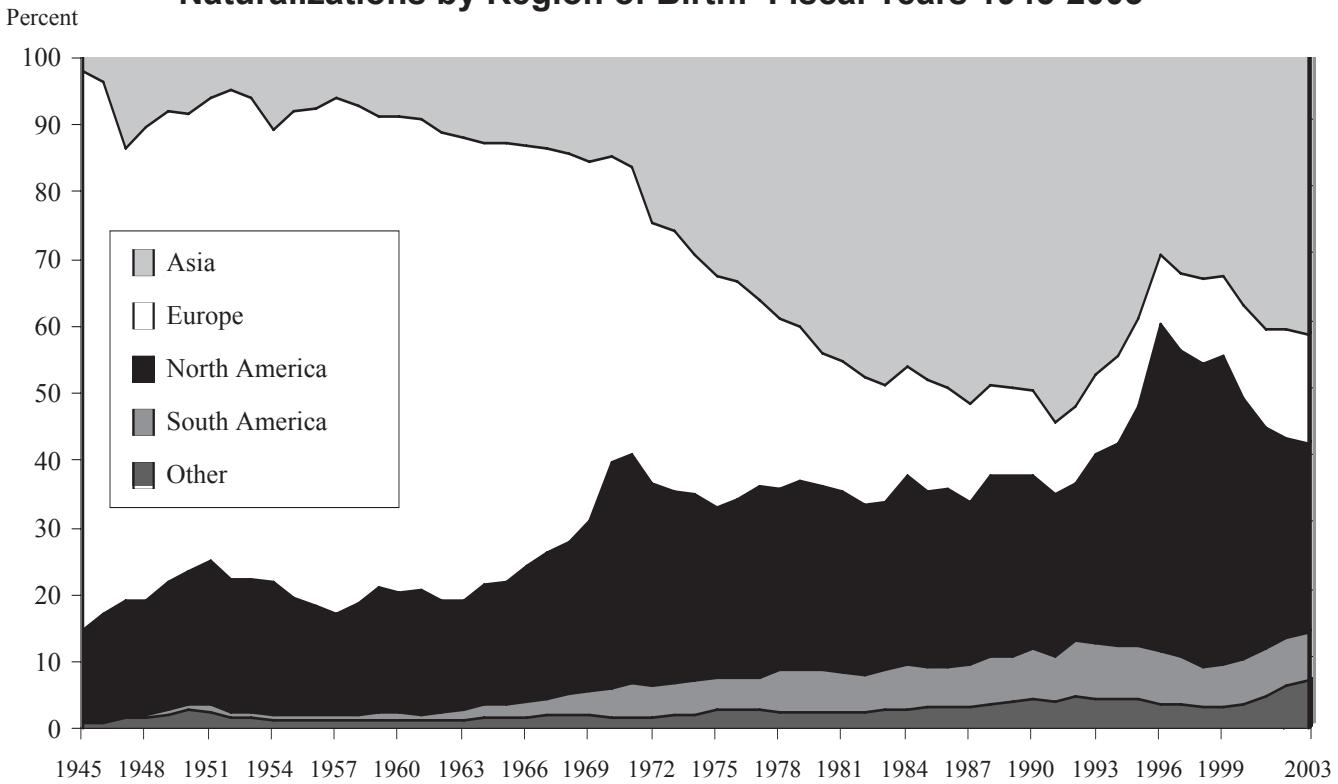
***More than 463,000 people were naturalized during 2003.***

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Between 1908 and 1990, the number of persons naturalizing each year exceeded 300,000 only twice, in

1943 and 1944, during World War II (Chart J and Table 31). Since 1990, naturalizations have exceeded 300,000 in every year except 1992. Naturalizations rose sharply beginning in 1994 due to several factors. A mandatory Green Card Replacement program initiated in 1992 led some permanent residents to naturalize who otherwise might not have done so. In 1994, the first of the 2.7 million illegal immigrants who were granted legal permanent residence under the provisions of the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) of 1986 became eligible to naturalize. Also during the mid 1990s, an unknown number of immigrants naturalized in response to legislative efforts restricting public benefits for the noncitizen population, including Proposition 187 in California (1994), the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act (1996), and the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA, 1996). Naturalizations peaked at 1,044,689 in 1996. The number of persons naturalizing each year during the 2001-03 period was lower than the annual average level reached during the late 1990s but well above the level existing prior to 1994.

## Chart K Naturalizations by Region of Birth: Fiscal Years 1945-2003



Source: 1993-2003, Table 32; 1945-92, previous Yearbooks.

### Region and country of birth (Chart K and Table 32)

Until the 1970s, the majority of persons naturalizing were born in Europe because the country quotas in immigration law favored those countries. Once the quotas ended with the INA amendments in 1965, the regional origin of persons immigrating and naturalizing shifted from European to Asian countries. Asian immigrants also had historically higher naturalization rates than other immigrants. Between 1976 and 1995, Asia was the leading region of birth among persons naturalizing. With increased legal immigration from North American countries (including Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central America) beginning in the mid 1980s, the share of naturalizations from that region increased, peaking at 49 percent in 1996. Since 2001, Asia has been the leading region of naturalizations. In 2003, 42 percent of persons naturalizing were born in Asian countries compared to 28 percent for North American countries.

Mexico was the leading country of birth of persons naturalizing in 2003, accounting for 56,093 new citizens. Other major countries of birth for persons naturalizing in 2003 were India (29,790), the Philippines (29,081), Vietnam

(25,995), the People's Republic of China (24,014), Korea (15,968), the Dominican Republic (12,627), Jamaica (11,232), Iran (10,807), and Poland (9,140). These ten sending countries (including Mexico) represented 49 percent of new naturalized citizens in 2003.

### State and metropolitan area of residence

(Table 33)

California was the residence of 135,815, or 29 percent, of persons naturalizing in 2003, followed by New York with 63,945, or 14 percent. Other top states of residence included Florida, Texas, Illinois, and New Jersey. These six states were home to 67 percent of new citizens in 2003. They were the same top destination states for persons naturalizing in 2002.

Ten metropolitan areas accounted for the residence of 46 percent of persons naturalizing in 2003. These areas included: New York, NY (53,797); Los Angeles, CA (47,087); Chicago, IL (22,366); Washington, DC-MD-VA-WV (17,037); Orange County, CA (15,585); Miami, FL (14,375); Oakland, CA (13,727); San Francisco, CA (10,234); San Jose, CA (9,930); and Houston, TX (9,843).

**Table I**  
**Median Years of Residence by Year of Naturalization and Region of Birth:**  
**Selected Fiscal Years 1965-2003**

Region of birth	2003	2002	2001	2000	1995	1990	1985	1980	1975	1970	1965
<b>Persons naturalized .....</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>
Africa .....	7	7	10	8	6	7	7	7	6	6	6
Asia .....	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	6	6	6
Europe .....	7	7	7	8	9	10	9	10	8	9	7
North America .....	11	11	11	11	14	11	13	11	9	7	9
Oceania .....	9	9	10	11	11	10	8	8	7	9	8
South America .....	8	8	9	10	10	9	8	9	10	7	7

#### **Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA)**

Naturalizations among immigrants legalized under IRCA declined from 43,164 (8 percent of the total) in fiscal year 2002 to 24,711 (5 percent of the total) in fiscal year 2003. The annual number of naturalizations among immigrants legalized under IRCA peaked in 1996 (227,905). Of all immigrants legalized under IRCA who naturalized in 2003, 68 percent were born in Mexico. By the end of 2003, approximately 957,000 or 36 percent of the total 2,688,000 immigrants legalized under IRCA had naturalized.

#### **Years in immigrant status (Table I)**

The median number of years of residence between the date of legal permanent residence and the date of naturalization was 8 years among persons who naturalized in 2003. European and African born immigrants spent the least time in legal immigrant status (7 years), followed by immigrants from Asia and South America (8 years), Oceania (9 years), and North America (11 years).

#### **Gender, age, marital status, and occupation**

##### (Table 34)

As in previous years, the majority (54 percent) of persons naturalizing in 2003 were female. Nearly 42 percent of new citizens were between ages 30-44 years of age. Two-thirds (64 percent) were married. By occupation, the largest number were professional and technical workers (10 percent), followed by operators, fabricators or laborers (9 percent). The former included slightly more women than men while the latter were predominantly male.

## **Understanding the Data**

### **Data Collection**

USCIS compiles two types of data on naturalizations: workload statistics and demographic statistics on the characteristics of persons who naturalize. Workload data include the number of naturalization applications received, the number of petitions filed, and the number of applicants approved for naturalization during a fiscal year.

Demographic data come from the N-400 application for naturalization for persons ages 18 and over and include: date and country of birth; gender; marital status; state and metropolitan area of residence; occupation; date of admission for permanent residence; and section of applicable naturalization law. These data are obtained from either an automated case-tracking system in operation in the larger USCIS offices, manually coded records from the smaller offices, and, if not otherwise available, from the Central Index System (CIS) of the USCIS.

### **Limitations of Data**

The 2003 naturalization data do not necessarily reflect the demand to naturalize because of the backlog of applications pending a decision. The demographic characteristics of aliens whose cases were in the backlog are unknown.

Data prior to 2001 included small numbers of records for persons under age 18, most of which came from the N-600 application for certificate of citizenship. The

N-600 form is used to provide evidence of citizenship for persons residing in the United States who derived or acquired citizenship. The N-600K form is used to confer naturalization on qualified children under the age of 18 of a U.S. citizen who regularly resides abroad. Most N-600 records were excluded beginning in 1998. Persons ages 17 and under have been excluded from naturalization *Statistical Yearbook* tables since 2001.

Occupation was not reported for one-third of all records in 2003. This is consistent with the level of nonreporting in previous years. In addition, data are missing on about 2 percent of all records for state of residence, marital status, and provision of naturalization law. The Central Index System (CIS), which does not maintain information on these variables, was the source of data for these records.

**TABLE 31. PETITIONS FOR NATURALIZATIONS FILED, PERSONS NATURALIZED,  
AND PETITIONS FOR NATURALIZATIONS DENIED  
FISCAL YEARS 1907-2003**

Year	Petitions filed <sup>1</sup>	Persons naturalized				Petitions denied
		Total	Civilian	Military	Not reported	
<b>1907-2003 .....</b>	<b>22,459,966</b>	<b>19,773,642</b>	<b>18,572,461</b>	<b>677,831</b>	<b>523,350</b>	<b>2,418,254</b>
1907-10 .....	164,036	111,738	111,738	-	-	17,702
1911-20 .....	1,381,384	1,128,972	884,672	244,300	-	118,725
1921-30 .....	1,884,277	1,773,185	1,716,979	56,206	-	165,493
1931-40 .....	1,637,113	1,518,464	1,498,573	19,891	-	45,792
1941-50 .....	1,938,066	1,987,028	1,837,229	149,799	-	64,814
1951-60 .....	1,230,483	1,189,946	1,148,241	41,705	-	27,569
<b>1961-70 .....</b>	<b>1,142,985</b>	<b>1,120,263</b>	<b>1,084,195</b>	<b>36,068</b>	-	<b>23,557</b>
1961 .....	138,718	132,450	130,731	1,719	-	3,175
1962 .....	129,682	127,307	124,972	2,335	-	3,557
1963 .....	121,170	124,178	121,618	2,560	-	2,436
1964 .....	113,218	112,234	109,629	2,605	-	2,309
1965 .....	106,813	104,299	101,214	3,085	-	2,059
1966 .....	104,853	103,059	100,498	2,561	-	2,029
1967 .....	108,369	104,902	102,211	2,691	-	2,008
1968 .....	103,085	102,726	100,288	2,438	-	1,962
1969 .....	102,317	98,709	93,251	5,458	-	2,043
1970 .....	114,760	110,399	99,783	10,616	-	1,979
<b>1971-80 .....</b>	<b>1,556,307</b>	<b>1,464,772</b>	<b>1,397,846</b>	<b>66,926</b>	-	<b>27,978</b>
1971 .....	109,897	108,407	98,858	9,549	-	2,028
1972 .....	121,883	116,215	107,740	8,475	-	1,837
1973 .....	126,929	120,740	112,944	7,796	-	1,708
1974 .....	136,175	131,655	124,807	6,848	-	2,210
1975 .....	149,399	141,537	135,323	6,214	-	2,300
1976 .....	157,932	142,504	136,873	5,631	-	2,231
1976, TQ <sup>2</sup>	41,220	48,218	46,705	1,513	-	568
1977 .....	186,354	159,873	154,568	5,305	-	2,845
1978 .....	168,854	173,535	168,409	5,126	-	3,894
1979 .....	165,434	164,150	158,276	5,874	-	3,987
1980 .....	192,230	157,938	153,343	4,595	-	4,370
<b>1981-90 .....</b>	<b>2,375,727</b>	<b>2,214,265</b>	<b>2,155,519</b>	<b>28,317</b>	<b>30,429</b>	<b>47,224</b>
1981 .....	171,073	166,317	162,227	4,090	-	4,316
1982 .....	201,507	173,688	170,071	3,617	-	3,994
1983 .....	187,719	178,948	175,678	3,196	74	3,160
1984 .....	286,440	197,023	192,113	2,965	1,945	3,373
1985 .....	305,981	244,717	238,394	3,266	3,057	3,610
1986 .....	290,732	280,623	275,352	2,901	2,370	5,980
1987 .....	232,988	227,008	224,100	2,402	506	6,771
1988 .....	237,752	242,063	239,541	2,296	226	4,304
1989 .....	227,692	233,777	231,198	1,954	625	5,200
1990 .....	233,843	270,101	246,845	1,630	21,626	6,516
<b>1991-2000 .....</b>	<b>7,423,885</b>	<b>5,619,892</b>	<b>5,159,520</b>	<b>28,945</b>	<b>431,427</b>	<b>1,429,696</b>
1991 .....	206,668	308,058	299,373	1,804	6,881	6,268
1992 .....	342,269	240,252	222,519	5,702	12,031	19,293
1993 .....	522,298	314,681	303,211	7,069	4,401	39,931
1994 .....	543,353	434,107	402,050	6,194	25,863	40,561
1995 .....	959,963	488,088	474,169	3,862	10,057	46,067
1996 .....	1,277,403	1,044,689	926,481	1,261	116,947	229,842
1997 .....	1,412,712	598,225	534,756	538	62,931	130,676
1998 .....	932,957	463,060	439,416	964	22,680	137,395
1999 .....	765,346	839,944	742,749	712	96,483	379,993
2000 .....	460,916	888,788	814,796	839	73,153	399,670
2001 .....	501,646	608,205	576,671	749	30,785	218,326
2002 .....	700,649	573,708	551,628	1,055	21,025	139,779
2003 .....	523,408	463,204	449,650	3,870	9,684	91,599

<sup>1</sup> Fee received or application entered into automated processing system. <sup>2</sup> Transition quarter, July 1 through September 30, 1976. - Represents zero.

**TABLE 32. PERSONS NATURALIZED BY REGION AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH**  
**FISCAL YEARS 1994-2003**

Region and country of birth	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
All countries .....	<b>434,107</b>	<b>488,088</b>	<b>1,044,689</b>	<b>598,225</b>	<b>463,060</b>	<b>839,944</b>	<b>888,788</b>	<b>608,205</b>	<b>573,708</b>	<b>463,204</b>
<b>Europe .....</b>	<b>56,449</b>	<b>63,602</b>	<b>109,607</b>	<b>67,783</b>	<b>58,836</b>	<b>101,318</b>	<b>121,273</b>	<b>89,431</b>	<b>93,627</b>	<b>74,186</b>
Albania .....	109	103	348	419	351	599	826	1,032	2,451	2,284
Andorra .....	-	-	D	-	D	3	D	D	D	-
Armenia .....	641	1,215	2,957	3,037	2,530	3,190	2,569	1,972	1,817	1,676
Austria .....	281	291	382	181	153	232	290	271	276	240
Azerbaijan .....	3	27	160	263	350	878	1,318	946	1,188	887
Belarus .....	3	89	393	727	833	1,869	3,063	2,008	2,142	1,224
Belgium .....	254	233	343	179	166	294	363	299	265	251
Bosnia-Herzegovina .....	18	29	44	50	33	300	1,745	2,759	4,095	4,994
Bulgaria .....	247	256	627	356	263	498	847	1,170	1,311	1,600
Croatia .....	52	168	470	212	184	358	501	519	621	616
Czech Republic .....	D	5	4	10	D	27	58	47	64	50
Czechoslovakia <sup>1</sup> .....	712	692	733	434	315	548	658	492	454	333
Denmark .....	243	230	341	165	165	239	286	227	195	197
Estonia .....	58	72	91	52	52	82	108	105	110	102
Finland .....	138	138	186	94	110	159	201	115	141	119
France .....	1,630	1,413	2,340	1,261	1,125	1,903	2,285	1,745	1,724	1,476
Georgia .....	4	25	70	101	76	147	407	415	444	416
Germany .....	3,763	3,658	4,664	2,946	2,517	4,169	4,522	3,212	3,431	3,201
Gibraltar .....	4	4	5	D	D	5	D	D	-	D
Greece .....	2,577	2,135	3,162	1,885	1,553	2,355	2,270	1,676	1,290	934
Hungary .....	855	868	1,159	568	531	884	1,074	877	829	620
Iceland .....	37	37	43	38	32	50	52	44	32	41
Ireland .....	1,677	1,959	3,284	1,835	1,444	3,414	5,454	4,441	3,443	2,585
Italy .....	5,702	4,065	5,117	2,445	2,522	4,393	4,436	2,987	2,621	1,849
Kazakhstan .....	36	21	32	46	58	226	437	429	562	455
Kyrgyzstan .....	-	D	D	D	18	32	87	81	128	131
Latvia .....	138	186	336	202	194	383	484	360	376	224
Liechtenstein .....	-	3	D	-	D	-	-	D	-	-
Lithuania .....	117	241	271	180	155	313	355	405	489	457
Luxembourg .....	10	8	21	9	4	15	11	9	8	9
Macedonia .....	-	89	298	204	137	212	310	394	560	378
Malta .....	102	53	123	51	39	93	116	63	86	61
Moldova .....	42	135	390	621	574	1,155	1,573	959	919	713
Monaco .....	D	5	3	D	D	8	-	D	D	D
Netherlands .....	613	657	976	475	397	700	813	549	515	502
Norway .....	171	160	265	112	92	161	192	126	109	93
Poland .....	7,062	8,092	14,047	8,037	5,911	13,127	16,405	11,661	12,823	9,140
Portugal .....	5,882	3,809	6,525	4,278	4,663	5,843	4,756	2,780	2,198	2,037
Romania .....	3,503	3,408	5,242	3,043	2,244	3,275	3,586	3,521	4,016	3,271
Russia .....	1,242	3,367	8,245	8,200	5,981	10,351	12,919	9,413	9,846	6,671
San Marino .....	D	D	-	D	D	7	6	D	D	D
Serbia and Montenegro <sup>2</sup> .....	2,956	2,479	3,276	1,297	1,004	1,761	2,196	2,082	2,307	2,014
Slovak Republic.....	D	16	20	26	35	81	200	243	301	287
Slovenia .....	5	20	19	13	17	36	43	42	58	43
Soviet Union <sup>1</sup> .....	4,865	10,338	20,137	9,286	6,987	11,300	9,195	4,576	4,305	3,441
Spain .....	817	837	2,079	756	905	1,241	1,073	724	634	555
Sweden .....	316	260	404	218	203	354	373	321	819	951
Switzerland .....	557	453	605	329	301	506	655	517	462	430
Tajikistan .....	-	8	7	15	35	167	406	369	234	127
Turkmenistan .....	D	D	6	5	5	27	73	60	65	43
Ukraine .....	583	2,715	6,959	5,971	6,952	12,190	16,849	11,828	12,110	8,239
United Kingdom .....	8,410	8,479	12,185	6,900	6,375	10,016	11,739	8,059	8,207	6,733
Uzbekistan .....	6	46	208	243	236	1,142	3,084	2,493	2,541	1,480
<b>Asia .....</b>	<b>193,842</b>	<b>190,205</b>	<b>307,451</b>	<b>193,591</b>	<b>153,951</b>	<b>273,924</b>	<b>331,136</b>	<b>247,185</b>	<b>232,412</b>	<b>192,050</b>
Afghanistan .....	1,995	2,031	4,141	1,839	1,736	2,752	2,843	1,947	1,429	1,237
Bahrain .....	16	22	27	10	19	32	41	47	47	31
Bangladesh .....	1,190	1,323	5,407	3,577	1,211	2,280	3,323	4,419	5,628	4,345
Bhutan .....	D	D	-	D	D	D	D	D	D	3

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 32. PERSONS NATURALIZED BY REGION AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH**  
**FISCAL YEARS 1994-2003—Continued**

Region and country of birth	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Brunei .....	12	8	D	D	9	13	15	8	12	9
Burma .....	875	872	1,335	578	443	889	1,131	1,079	1,069	905
Cambodia .....	4,132	3,619	5,202	5,180	5,348	7,140	5,292	3,489	3,126	3,150
China, People's Republic .....	22,331	21,564	34,320	20,947	16,145	38,409	54,534	34,423	32,018	24,014
Cyprus .....	196	176	250	113	129	190	205	185	150	100
Hong Kong .....	6,534	5,690	8,660	4,752	2,927	6,624	8,101	5,274	4,852	3,753
India .....	20,940	18,558	33,113	21,206	17,060	30,710	42,198	34,311	33,774	29,790
Indonesia .....	580	624	1,106	575	609	1,464	2,487	1,247	1,006	964
Iran .....	10,041	11,761	19,278	11,434	10,739	18,268	19,251	13,881	11,796	10,807
Iraq .....	1,808	1,609	2,309	1,621	2,033	3,230	5,217	3,451	3,318	2,211
Israel .....	3,039	2,645	3,537	2,034	1,444	2,917	3,581	2,974	2,562	2,038
Japan .....	1,440	1,462	2,188	1,283	1,847	3,178	3,757	2,369	1,858	1,796
Jordan <sup>3</sup> .....	2,797	2,385	3,236	1,820	1,510	2,467	3,252	2,883	2,824	1,917
Korea .....	12,367	15,709	27,969	16,056	10,305	17,738	23,858	18,053	17,307	15,968
Kuwait .....	449	465	705	404	308	597	905	766	791	606
Laos .....	5,630	4,315	10,621	8,630	7,734	9,188	7,163	6,507	8,418	5,857
Lebanon .....	4,592	4,171	5,441	3,041	2,391	4,226	4,939	3,556	3,408	2,503
Macau .....	190	127	225	117	87	197	255	200	196	115
Malaysia .....	522	443	690	428	370	885	1,374	1,034	1,095	985
Maldives .....	D	D	-	D	-	D	D	D	-	-
Mongolia .....	D	D	-	-	D	7	15	9	13	17
Nepal .....	70	60	119	78	82	143	204	205	248	319
Oman .....	D	7	D	5	D	D	7	8	D	16
Pakistan .....	4,529	4,912	11,251	7,266	3,572	6,572	8,726	8,375	8,658	7,431
Philippines .....	40,777	37,870	51,346	30,898	24,872	38,944	46,563	35,431	30,487	29,081
Qatar .....	19	14	34	16	12	27	35	37	48	34
Saudi Arabia .....	158	126	193	147	80	152	310	247	309	251
Singapore .....	204	172	292	171	143	294	405	306	322	273
Sri Lanka .....	537	522	917	547	460	883	1,001	836	963	827
Syria .....	1,820	1,825	2,510	1,638	1,466	2,344	2,802	2,158	2,280	1,882
Taiwan .....	10,387	9,565	12,114	6,455	4,862	11,215	13,200	9,076	8,611	6,746
Thailand .....	1,634	1,707	3,912	2,287	1,986	4,046	5,225	4,104	4,026	3,648
Turkey .....	1,663	1,591	2,181	1,575	1,547	2,025	2,072	1,795	1,926	1,724
United Arab Emirates .....	26	17	26	45	13	44	79	84	109	112
Vietnam .....	29,555	31,728	51,910	36,178	30,185	53,316	55,934	41,596	36,835	25,995
Yemen .....	779	504	876	631	259	512	832	810	882	590
<b>Africa .....</b>	<b>16,073</b>	<b>18,495</b>	<b>26,970</b>	<b>15,996</b>	<b>12,467</b>	<b>20,401</b>	<b>25,850</b>	<b>24,312</b>	<b>31,527</b>	<b>28,568</b>
Algeria .....	183	188	275	173	143	277	427	469	615	494
Angola .....	98	68	122	91	73	99	113	86	69	65
Benin .....	28	37	14	24	24	35	23	19	25	27
Botswana .....	4	D	8	5	-	4	8	7	4	12
Burkina Faso .....	290	168	8	4	3	8	16	10	7	12
Burundi .....	6	5	7	3	D	6	13	15	28	21
Cameroon .....	175	175	264	164	149	181	286	299	463	534
Cape Verde .....	500	529	634	573	542	849	736	581	684	431
Central African Republic .....	D	6	4	D	D	4	4	D	10	6
Chad .....	D	D	3	3	4	6	9	12	3	24
Comoros .....	-	-	D	D	-	3	-	D	D	3
Congo, Democratic Republic <sup>4</sup> .....	100	91	187	81	68	127	138	115	116	101
Congo, Republic <sup>4</sup> .....	7	5	5	3	11	42	58	90	139	123
Cote d'Ivoire .....	78	76	164	107	84	121	184	171	272	264
Djibouti .....	5	8	5	5	5	9	10	9	18	16
Egypt .....	2,620	2,671	3,877	2,238	1,498	2,687	3,492	3,786	3,701	2,925
Equatorial Guinea .....	4	5	10	D	D	5	3	-	3	D
Eritrea .....	54	343	518	393	443	567	824	756	812	821
Ethiopia .....	2,375	2,626	3,397	1,994	1,844	2,611	2,774	2,765	3,902	3,828
French Southern and Antarctic Lands .....	-	-	-	-	-	D	-	-	-	-
Gabon .....	4	3	7	3	D	5	8	5	12	11
Gambia, The .....	26	53	98	50	40	69	81	71	135	113
Ghana .....	1,145	1,578	2,905	1,588	1,073	1,548	2,035	1,832	3,328	2,836

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 32. PERSONS NATURALIZED BY REGION AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH  
FISCAL YEARS 1994-2003—Continued**

Region and country of birth	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Guinea .....	6	5	9	24	31	42	71	67	111	81
Guinea-Bissau .....	5	154	3	74	206	168	20	6	14	15
Kenya .....	419	429	695	496	399	699	933	734	865	823
Lesotho .....	3	5	5	4	5	D	5	3	5	6
Liberia .....	609	745	1,104	719	557	848	1,027	782	1,048	918
Libya .....	170	205	211	130	95	153	181	171	164	112
Madagascar .....	12	13	27	16	12	16	30	25	29	22
Malawi .....	40	35	40	22	35	37	50	39	44	25
Mali .....	11	16	30	29	19	32	48	51	72	64
Mauritania .....	D	8	9	3	D	12	13	19	23	29
Mauritius .....	29	13	37	29	23	41	60	38	37	42
Morocco .....	731	689	1,174	555	415	854	1,198	1,248	1,274	1,284
Mozambique .....	59	37	53	40	30	59	68	29	57	32
Namibia .....	7	6	8	9	5	10	13	15	13	13
Niger .....	3	6	489	218	321	608	556	183	110	47
Nigeria .....	3,464	4,645	6,248	3,537	1,963	3,125	4,135	4,355	6,419	5,697
Reunion .....	-	-	-	-	-	D	-	-	-	-
Rwanda .....	4	11	10	5	4	9	31	62	86	77
Sao Tome and Principe .....	D	-	D	D	D	3	D	D	D	4
Senegal .....	72	87	260	223	107	188	218	251	346	274
Seychelles .....	17	18	12	16	7	13	27	18	12	16
Sierra Leone .....	398	578	782	492	420	487	600	518	763	778
Somalia .....	154	211	306	171	306	816	1,247	1,168	1,791	2,237
South Africa .....	1,192	884	1,217	661	676	1,418	1,967	1,472	1,528	1,262
St. Helena .....	-	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Sudan .....	133	165	308	218	140	281	515	741	1,013	841
Swaziland .....	3	7	3	-	5	5	11	3	8	7
Tanzania .....	254	223	447	220	189	354	420	334	345	295
Togo .....	22	20	32	20	18	35	58	57	113	153
Tunisia .....	101	109	164	87	90	129	168	157	165	120
Uganda .....	206	277	409	264	206	348	430	297	322	279
Western Sahara .....	D	D	-	D	-	D	D	-	-	-
Zambia .....	122	120	183	105	90	168	228	158	168	134
Zimbabwe .....	117	132	178	99	79	174	274	207	231	211
<b>Oceania .....</b>	<b>1,763</b>	<b>1,817</b>	<b>3,312</b>	<b>1,812</b>	<b>1,613</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>2,685</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>2,356</b>	<b>2,891</b>
American Samoa .....	103	122	148	38	63	75	80	97	102	117
Australia .....	282	250	438	261	203	342	436	392	427	884
Christmas Island .....	D	D	D	D	-	D	-	-	-	-
Cocos Islands .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	D	-	-
Cook Islands .....	5	5	30	9	3	8	3	4	5	5
Fiji .....	711	704	1,392	711	493	775	924	1,180	1,022	1,206
French Polynesia .....	26	23	113	47	103	142	128	-	16	9
Guam .....	-	4	D	D	-	D	D	41	-	D
Kiribati .....	3	3	4	4	D	3	3	3	-	-
Marshall Islands .....	4	4	6	5	D	D	D	3	D	4
Micronesia, Federated States ...	3	5	6	D	7	D	3	4	6	6
Nauru .....	D	3	-	D	-	3	5	D	D	D
New Caledonia .....	D	D	4	D	D	4	3	4	D	D
New Zealand .....	238	245	342	222	196	317	421	347	356	340
Niue .....	-	-	8	D	-	D	D	-	-	-
Northern Mariana Islands .....	3	D	D	-	-	D	-	3	-	-
Palau .....	11	D	D	10	17	19	17	7	9	11
Papua New Guinea .....	3	8	13	D	-	3	8	7	7	3
Pitcairn Island .....	D	D	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Samoa <sup>s</sup> .....	188	206	319	155	219	257	282	195	151	117
Solomon Islands .....	4	4	D	D	3	D	D	D	D	D
Tonga .....	171	220	453	336	299	423	366	301	248	183
Tuvalu .....	D	D	-	D	3	D	-	D	-	-
Vanuatu .....	-	-	D	D	-	D	D	D	D	-
Wallis and Futuna Islands .....	-	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 32. PERSONS NATURALIZED BY REGION AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH**  
**FISCAL YEARS 1994-2003—Continued**

Region and country of birth	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>North America .....</b>	<b>130,345</b>	<b>175,216</b>	<b>506,767</b>	<b>273,954</b>	<b>208,192</b>	<b>385,605</b>	<b>347,193</b>	<b>200,939</b>	<b>169,950</b>	<b>130,848</b>
Canada .....	8,684	7,597	11,663	6,639	5,545	9,353	11,365	7,551	7,591	6,408
Greenland .....	5	D	4	D	-	D	-	D	-	D
Mexico .....	46,169	81,655	254,988	142,569	112,442	207,750	189,705	103,234	76,531	56,093
St. Pierre and Miquelon .....	5	-	-	D	D	D	-	-	-	-
United States .....	71	D	42	22	D	28	44	D	42	D
<b>Caribbean .....</b>	<b>58,569</b>	<b>56,480</b>	<b>163,709</b>	<b>84,834</b>	<b>62,678</b>	<b>115,245</b>	<b>93,291</b>	<b>59,602</b>	<b>58,943</b>	<b>46,154</b>
Anguilla .....	88	57	41	64	86	165	67	38	30	24
Antigua-Barbuda .....	627	668	1,415	886	932	1,103	946	478	451	326
Aruba .....	80	42	107	66	38	86	85	41	50	28
Bahamas, The .....	238	223	671	337	265	796	591	394	401	342
Barbados .....	1,432	1,304	2,488	1,960	1,173	2,558	1,891	914	874	664
Bermuda .....	54	80	75	39	54	84	90	58	47	38
British Virgin Islands .....	122	62	43	102	136	205	134	48	40	22
Cayman Islands .....	47	55	36	288	152	137	23	15	17	7
Cuba .....	16,380	17,511	63,234	13,155	15,331	25,467	15,661	11,393	10,889	7,727
Dominica .....	405	434	1,040	621	677	977	717	372	456	361
Dominican Republic .....	11,390	9,999	29,459	21,092	11,916	23,089	25,176	15,010	15,591	12,627
Grenada .....	829	736	1,681	1,223	663	1,532	1,172	610	609	524
Guadeloupe .....	29	137	383	21	19	61	32	14	25	18
Haiti .....	7,989	7,884	25,012	16,477	10,416	19,550	14,428	10,408	9,280	7,263
Jamaica .....	12,252	11,156	25,458	20,253	15,040	28,604	22,567	13,978	13,973	11,232
Martinique .....	14	7	23	14	11	22	23	21	16	10
Montserrat .....	118	91	181	141	124	190	130	86	84	64
Netherlands Antilles .....	36	29	61	62	51	89	79	34	28	19
Puerto Rico .....	4	5	6	5	4	D	4	D	3	-
St. Kitts-Nevis .....	612	575	983	714	771	995	713	331	352	321
St. Lucia .....	393	418	824	638	531	708	610	392	418	367
St. Vincent and the Grenadines .....	540	492	1,112	827	475	999	832	440	462	374
Trinidad and Tobago .....	4,874	4,487	9,288	5,803	3,784	7,732	7,265	4,484	4,822	3,777
Turks and Caicos Islands .....	8	19	70	41	19	83	43	40	18	15
U.S. Virgin Islands .....	8	9	18	5	10	D	12	D	7	4
<b>Central America .....</b>	<b>16,842</b>	<b>29,467</b>	<b>76,361</b>	<b>39,885</b>	<b>27,505</b>	<b>53,227</b>	<b>52,788</b>	<b>30,513</b>	<b>26,843</b>	<b>22,155</b>
Belize .....	635	874	1,831	1,353	988	2,079	1,802	1,015	774	666
Costa Rica .....	1,055	1,138	2,759	1,574	1,103	2,087	1,895	1,146	1,002	869
El Salvador .....	5,643	13,702	35,478	18,273	12,267	22,991	24,073	13,663	10,716	8,738
Guatemala .....	3,001	5,093	13,933	7,914	5,534	11,031	11,488	6,281	5,455	4,564
Honduras .....	2,215	2,954	7,881	4,318	2,752	5,294	5,188	3,257	3,505	3,011
Nicaragua .....	2,437	3,950	11,135	4,409	3,359	6,651	5,426	3,564	3,794	3,054
Panama .....	1,856	1,756	3,344	2,044	1,502	3,094	2,916	1,587	1,597	1,253
<b>South America .....</b>	<b>35,014</b>	<b>38,072</b>	<b>84,520</b>	<b>42,282</b>	<b>27,550</b>	<b>54,363</b>	<b>58,009</b>	<b>42,288</b>	<b>42,888</b>	<b>33,701</b>
Argentina .....	2,481	2,714	5,457	2,247	1,651	3,366	3,432	2,211	2,131	1,880
Bolivia .....	803	1,186	2,367	1,093	845	1,461	1,375	908	1,100	933
Brazil .....	1,322	1,254	2,961	2,360	1,947	4,114	4,524	3,935	3,889	3,096
Chile .....	1,206	1,315	3,068	1,427	1,002	1,892	1,888	1,205	1,154	1,074
Colombia .....	12,309	12,823	27,483	11,645	7,024	13,168	14,018	10,872	10,634	7,962
Ecuador .....	3,965	5,381	14,547	7,463	4,674	8,411	9,487	6,571	6,402	5,075
Falkland Islands .....	-	D	-	D	-	-	D	-	-	-
French Guiana .....	D	D	-	D	-	D	D	D	6	D
Guyana .....	6,081	5,499	11,223	7,544	4,575	10,366	10,820	7,052	7,224	4,934
Paraguay .....	259	230	491	248	112	193	214	166	198	175
Peru .....	4,754	5,921	12,884	6,352	4,353	8,308	8,958	6,675	7,385	6,139
Suriname .....	D	D	134	D	45	D	163	D	120	D
Uruguay .....	667	679	1,372	622	397	689	693	472	486	352
Venezuela .....	1,078	1,009	2,533	1,205	925	2,263	2,426	2,107	2,159	1,959
Born on board ship .....	-	-	D	-	-	-	-	D	-	-
Stateless .....	-	-	-	44	28	67	42	23	15	6
Unknown .....	621	681	6,061	2,763	423	1,881	2,600	1,432	933	954

<sup>1</sup> Data are for unknown republic only; independent republics shown separately. See Notice of Special Geographic Definitions. <sup>2</sup> Yugoslavia (unknown republic) prior to February 7, 2003. See Notice of Special Geographic Definitions. <sup>3</sup> Prior to 2003, includes Palestine; beginning in 2003, Palestine included in Unknown. See Notice of Special Geographic Definitions. <sup>4</sup> In May 1997 Zaire was formally recognized as the Democratic Republic of the Congo; the Congo is referred to by its conventional name, the Republic of the Congo. See Notice of Special Geographic Definitions. <sup>5</sup> In August 1997 Western Samoa was formally recognized as Samoa (Independent State). See Notice of Special Geographic Definitions. - Represents zero. D Disclosure standards not met.

**TABLE 33. PERSONS NATURALIZED BY STATE OF RESIDENCE  
FISCAL YEARS 1994-2003**

State of residence	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>434,107</b>	<b>488,088</b>	<b>1,044,689</b>	<b>598,225</b>	<b>463,060</b>	<b>839,944</b>	<b>888,788</b>	<b>608,205</b>	<b>573,708</b>	<b>463,204</b>
Alabama .....	954	860	1,002	644	658	1,132	1,553	409	1,276	1,182
Alaska .....	648	675	4	757	995	633	668	710	929	745
Arizona .....	3,894	4,059	6,838	3,767	4,105	8,737	10,755	8,245	6,067	7,225
Arkansas .....	615	163	6	809	244	442	241	132	583	717
California .....	118,567	171,285	378,014	187,432	154,793	284,071	300,662	203,415	149,554	135,815
Colorado .....	3,171	3,753	5,168	3,560	3,230	8,552	6,138	4,233	5,878	4,834
Connecticut .....	5,460	6,409	8,122	8,452	7,351	8,064	7,100	5,009	6,076	4,285
Delaware .....	695	600	650	464	648	844	1,281	697	570	707
District of Columbia .....	1,091	1,496	1,920	1,098	1,024	1,621	1,394	956	926	853
Florida .....	35,186	31,372	123,368	28,768	30,926	67,567	68,882	48,752	44,792	35,170
Georgia .....	5,437	5,418	6,603	5,958	6,274	9,717	12,423	3,229	11,081	11,075
Hawaii .....	4,659	5,174	6,090	3,994	4,493	3,600	4,372	2,885	2,884	2,291
Idaho .....	299	336	D	769	853	1,028	437	357	58	56
Illinois .....	17,946	20,694	48,746	28,096	16,804	36,742	39,327	32,390	32,636	23,425
Indiana .....	1,738	1,430	678	2,388	2,404	1,747	2,750	2,581	2,779	2,727
Iowa .....	837	970	5	244	191	73	622	1,058	1,465	1,123
Kansas .....	1,059	1,131	7	1,733	2,208	3,461	2,194	2,343	1,371	1,898
Kentucky .....	775	677	10	1,074	586	1,041	667	402	1,987	1,544
Louisiana .....	1,667	2,714	3,247	2,415	2,478	2,701	1,882	686	2,109	1,705
Maine .....	473	639	41	343	544	340	390	367	515	427
Maryland .....	9,572	11,251	1,259	3,691	9,615	9,699	4,918	5,414	13,232	13,857
Massachusetts .....	14,739	11,803	14,762	8,158	10,568	21,672	23,062	17,632	18,040	11,472
Michigan .....	7,798	8,170	12,658	5,766	7,100	7,966	14,829	6,116	11,126	5,195
Minnesota .....	2,528	760	6	3,296	4,331	6,507	4,277	5,709	5,446	6,232
Mississippi .....	385	393	410	442	378	624	475	270	506	445
Missouri .....	1,236	1,440	14	2,226	2,156	2,376	3,228	2,633	2,313	3,259
Montana .....	81	117	D	165	165	214	62	D	7	D
Nebraska .....	4,147	2,999	4	259	717	407	990	1,548	1,644	791
Nevada .....	1,937	2,894	24	7,963	4,414	3,427	960	3,333	3,789	4,100
New Hampshire .....	926	559	489	430	645	1,078	485	819	448	1,028
New Jersey .....	24,587	28,770	44,351	32,406	21,301	8,294	29,955	26,776	26,783	22,987
New Mexico .....	697	643	5	511	649	1,507	104	786	1,086	995
New York .....	67,282	68,611	169,428	95,595	47,456	104,048	138,504	99,022	94,276	63,945
North Carolina .....	2,089	2,073	11	2,873	3,463	3,427	9,036	3,876	8,356	3,581
North Dakota .....	137	192	-	188	166	80	146	200	210	146
Ohio .....	4,432	3,263	5,106	4,447	5,859	5,509	5,834	3,647	6,056	2,766
Oklahoma .....	1,286	1,806	8	1,168	613	3,198	210	1,920	1,831	1,574
Oregon .....	2,475	1,810	23	1,464	2,307	5,165	4,247	4,191	4,445	4,301
Pennsylvania .....	9,644	9,665	9,652	7,327	9,997	14,094	13,269	8,396	9,630	9,448
Rhode Island .....	2,302	1,535	D	2,951	2,642	2,884	719	1,066	1,160	1,624
South Carolina .....	1,387	1,032	713	1,086	1,334	1,093	1,683	696	505	1,020
South Dakota .....	114	103	D	173	159	14	170	203	209	177
Tennessee .....	1,364	634	14	1,275	1,255	2,617	2,022	1,260	2,444	2,011
Texas .....	25,148	32,209	57,970	39,172	30,862	58,849	55,800	43,396	42,828	28,671
Utah .....	1,163	1,417	22	2,850	1,421	2,296	793	1,836	1,791	1,684
Vermont .....	369	523	9	321	360	126	348	332	428	426
Virginia .....	7,103	10,542	13,724	6,803	8,589	11,808	12,507	7,426	10,612	9,593
Washington .....	6,878	11,063	12,228	14,668	12,991	11,174	14,499	8,793	9,339	11,790
West Virginia .....	229	318	3	218	265	307	47	285	302	261
Wisconsin .....	17	874	5	1,371	1,894	3,132	4,236	2,960	3,632	2,777
Wyoming .....	86	127	127	145	121	151	191	135	102	111
U.S. territories and possessions										
American Samoa .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91	-	-
Guam .....	1,445	1,464	D	1,458	1,117	780	76	283	607	599
Northern Mariana Is. ....	37	53	-	46	33	27	-	-	26	25
Puerto Rico .....	1,484	4	3	368	1,650	2,202	539	708	1,066	559
U.S. Virgin Islands .....	1,113	1,204	D	914	1,834	1,593	344	304	336	439
Armed Forces posts .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown .....	22,719	7,912	111,133	63,266	23,824	99,486	76,485	27,211	15,561	7,428

- Represents zero. D Disclosure standards not met.

**TABLE 34. PERSONS NATURALIZED BY GENDER, AGE, MARITAL STATUS, AND OCCUPATION  
FISCAL YEAR 2003**

Age, marital status, and occupation	Total	Gender		
		Male	Female	Unknown
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>463,204</b>	<b>208,930</b>	<b>250,832</b>	<b>3,442</b>
<b>Age</b>				
18-20 years .....	14,580	6,382	8,082	116
21 years and over .....	448,620	202,547	242,749	3,324
18-19 years .....	5,958	2,554	3,361	43
20-24 years .....	50,905	22,727	27,756	422
25-29 years .....	58,829	25,715	32,675	439
30-34 years .....	64,735	28,342	36,032	361
35-39 years .....	69,844	32,435	36,950	459
40-44 years .....	57,834	27,532	29,899	403
45-49 years .....	42,820	19,828	22,622	370
50-54 years .....	32,574	14,718	17,594	262
55-59 years .....	25,534	11,554	13,764	216
60-64 years .....	18,767	8,374	10,234	159
65-74 years .....	25,528	10,997	14,307	224
75 years and over .....	9,872	4,153	5,637	82
Unknown .....	4	1	1	2
Median age .....	38	38	38	39
<b>Marital status</b>				
Single .....	108,013	55,529	52,484	-
Married .....	298,361	135,758	162,601	2
Widowed .....	15,522	2,515	13,007	-
Divorced/Separated .....	33,829	13,139	20,690	-
Unknown .....	7,479	1,989	2,050	3,440
<b>Occupation</b>				
Executive and managerial .....	25,722	14,733	10,989	-
Professional and technical .....	45,415	21,988	23,427	-
Sales .....	23,299	9,461	13,838	-
Administrative support .....	18,054	4,408	13,646	-
Farming, forestry, and fisheries .....	1,131	871	260	-
Operators, fabricators, and laborers .....	36,597	25,535	11,062	-
Precision production craft and repair .....	11,666	9,961	1,705	-
Service .....	40,060	15,197	24,862	1
Military .....	6,064	4,833	1,231	-
No occupation/not working outside home .....	97,486	30,128	67,358	-
Homemakers .....	24,627	296	24,331	-
Students or children .....	25,101	10,759	14,342	-
Retirees .....	10,969	5,390	5,579	-
Unemployed .....	36,789	13,683	23,106	-
Unknown .....	157,710	71,815	82,454	3,441

- Represents zero.